

Floyd Petersen, Mayor Stan Brauer, Mayor pro tempore Robert Christman, Councilmember Robert Ziprick, Councilmember Charles Umeda, Councilmember

COUNCIL AGENDA:

August 23, 2005

TO:

City Council

VIA:

Dennis R. Halloway, City Manager

SUBJECT:

Public Hearing regarding an Automated Enforcement System (red light cameras)

TO BE CONTINUED TO SEPTEMBER 13

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council continue the public hearing to September 13 due to the complexity of the agenda and the number of public hearings scheduled.

## BACKGROUND

On July 26, the City Council, pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 21455.6, scheduled a public hearing on the proposed use of automated enforcement systems prior to entering into a contract for the use of those systems.

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, in conjunction with the Information Systems Department and the Public Works Department, has been investigating the feasibility of utilizing a Red Light Photo Enforcement Program within the City and the installation of traffic signal cameras at selected intersections within the City. The use of such cameras, and resulting traffic citations, would help promote traffic safety and would expand the traffic enforcement efforts with the City. This program would require no direct funding by the City.

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, red light running is the leading cause of urban traffic collisions. The United States Department of Transportation (DOT) reports that more than 1.8 million intersection crashes occur annually.

### **ANALYSIS**

Over 50 cities in the State of California are utilizing camera enforcement programs. One of the most effective, proven, and cost-effective methods to address red light violations is by use of red light photo enforcement. An independent study of red light programs currently supported by Redflex, indicates that red light violations decreased as much as 80 percent at intersections where camera enforcement was in operation and there was a reduction of up to 50 percent in collisions.

Where red light photo enforcement is in effect, there is a decrease in both violations and accidents not only at locations with cameras but citywide because, in general, when motorists are aware that the jurisdiction utilizes red light photo enforcement, they tend to be more cognizant of their overall driving.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL**

Not applicable

# FINANCIAL IMPACT

No direct funding by the City

AGENDA ITEM 7